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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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Infantry Division in Kosice

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1. The reorganization of component units of the 10th Inf Div,
KOSICE (R 49/E 34), was ordered in late August, to become
effective on 1 October 1949.

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The 4th MD issued an order on the reorganization of the 20th
Inf Regt about 20 August 1949. A supplementary order contain-
ing details of implementing the reorganization was issued 5
September 1949 [REDACTED]

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3. Data concerning the new organization:

a. Hq of the 10th Inf Div

(1) The number of general staff officers and probably also
of other officers was reduced. The sections were redesignat-
ed from "oddeleni" to "referaty".

(2) The Hq of the 10th Inf Div included, besides the (4th)
Personnel Section, a special section in charge of political
screening, promotions, discharges, disciplinary action and
power to institute criminal proceedings. This special section
had far-reaching powers. Capt Michal KOZIC, a Communist mem-
ber of parliament, was chief of the special section of the
10th Inf Div. The highest authority for affairs dealt with
by the special section was the X Department of the Ministry of
National Defense. The X Department was headed by a colonel
and was under supervision of the Ministry of National Defense,
of which Col REJCIN (who controlled the X Department) with
General PROCHAZKA had been appointed Deputy Minister of Nation-
al Defense.

(3) It was learned at the Hq of the 10th Inf Div that the
previous system [REDACTED] was to be gradually changed.

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b. 20th Inf Regt

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(2) Military posts:

PRESOV (R 49/E 37)
SABINOV (R 50/E 38) (2d and 4th Co)

The regiment evacuated its previous posts of

LEVOCA (R 50/D 38),
BARDEJOV (R 50/E 30), and
HUMENNE (R 49/E 86)

for SNB units. The 20th Inf Regt was to provide one SNB battalion in LEVOCA and one in BARDEJOV and HUMENNE with administrative and supply services. The regiment was also to furnish instructors and administrative personnel for the mentioned SNB battalions.

(3) Organization:

Regimental headquarters with commanders' office, orderly room and administrative office. Headquarters company with headquarters platoon, signal platoon (telephone and radio sections), submachine gun platoon, infantry gun platoon (two 45-mm guns and one squad with 82-mm mortars).

Infantry battalion with

1st Inf Co)
2d Inf Co) three platoons each
3rd Inf Co)
4th MG Co
5th Hv Wpn Co

Replacement training battalion.

(4) Personnel:

52 officers
30 regular NCOs
600 EM of the 1925 class and 1926 class.

According to the new T/O the regiment was to have one colonel and four lieutenant colonels.

c. 14th Inf Regt, 32d Inf Regt

The other two regiments of the 10th Inf Div were also reorganized. The 14th Inf Regt presumably remained at its military post of JELSAVA (Q 49/L 53) and the 32d Inf Regt in KOSICE (R 49/E 34) and TREBISOV (R 49/L 62).

25X1 [] Comment:

a. The statements on the reorganization of the 10th Inf Div are considered credible, and are supported by another report * containing data on the 20th Inf Regt and other units in the 4th ID which proved to be correct.

b. Reorganization of the 10th Inf Div

The reorganization of the 10th Inf Div means about a 50-percent

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reduction of infantry elements, both the number of battalions and the strength of personnel. The division must therefore be considered a cadre unit which, should the regiments have retained their materiel (on which issue no pertinent information is available as yet), could rapidly be brought to full strength in case of mobilization.

c. Transfer of SNB units to previous military posts of the 20th Inf Regt.

There are indications that the military posts of LEVOCA, ZABLENOV and EUPHENSE, vacated due to the reduction of the 20th Inf Regt, were reoccupied by SNB battalions, which apparently were newly activated. Further information is required to ascertain if the SNB was generally strengthened in all of Czechoslovakia. If so, the increase of the SNB was presumably effected because of the unreliability of the Czechoslovakian Army toward the Communist regime.

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e. Personnel Surveillance Department:

It has been known since the Spring of 1949 that the X Department was established as part of the Ministry of National Defense. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Minister of National Defense, Col REJCIN had been carried as Chief of the X Department. There were several indications supporting the assumption that the X Department assumed missions relating to the political surveillance of military personnel to promote the building of a Communist officer corps.

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The importance attributed to this mission is characterized by the appointment of Col REJCIN, a notorious Communist, as Deputy Minister of National Defense in charge of personnel affairs. REJCIN is believed to be responsible for the purge of the Czechoslovakian officer corps. The report states, for the first time, that special sections for political surveillance of personnel were also established with the unit headquarters.

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